



'Bomber Bellew' helps ex-soldiers



Letters 12 • Crossword 16

Christie gets the 'yogabug'

BRAVE WAR HERO'S FINAL HONOUR

Former RAF prisoner of war is honoured 70 years after parachuting out of burning plane

A GREAT-grandad who survived after his plane was shot down over Berlin in World War II, but was held as a prisoner of war for two years, has finally been rewarded for his bravery.

Ron Galloway, 89, who is originally from Anfield, was presented with his Bomber Command clasp 70 years after he was first captured by German troops.

It was only in February this year when the Government told veterans they can now apply for the award, so Ron's family went forward to request it on his behalf and were successful.

Some 125,000 men made up the Bomber Command service but until recently, none of them were ever given an official thanks for their heroic actions during World War II.

Ron Galloway, who is now living in Dovecot, said: "I am very pleased with my medal that my son Alan applied for."

"I was unaware of this new award until now and I am delighted that I have a lasting memory to show for the service I dedicated to my country during World War II."

"It was a proud day when I could say that my medal collection was complete."

Report by **Holly Rummens**

Ron joined the RAF when he was just 19 years old but in December 1943 his Lancaster Bomber Command plane was shot down over Berlin.

Miraculously only one member of the crew, the rear gunman, died, as the remaining servicemen including Ron, escaped from the burning plane using silk parachutes.

The men were found by the Red Cross who took them to a nearby German military hospital, before taking them to a camp where they were held as prisoners of war for two years.

It wasn't until May in 1945 that they were finally released by the Russian Army and returned home.

Mark Francois, Minister of State for Defence Personnel, Welfare and Veterans, commented on the application saying: "They deserve nothing but the utmost respect and admiration from us."

"That's why I am delighted that these special individuals will in the next few weeks begin to receive the Bomber Command clasp that they have so long deserved."

"I am also pleased to announce that the families of those no longer alive will also be able to apply for these awards in recognition of their loved one's bravery."

In fact Ron has actually received more than one award for his bravery during the war.

He is also a member of the elite Caterpillar Club, which is an international organisation for airmen and women whose lives were saved by silk parachutes.

He continued to say: "I am proud of my awards that I have received because being a part of the Caterpillar Club is a great achievement. After being shot down from a plane and falling 20,000ft it is great to receive recognition."

Currently there are only 5,000 servicemen alive who served in the Bomber Command unit and to qualify for the award, veterans must have flown at least one operational attack on the enemy with a Bomber Command operational unit.



War veteran 89-year-old Ron Galloway proudly shows off his Bomber Command Clasp. Code1058622

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Organisers geared up for Frank Hornby Festival

THE church where former Everton MP Frank Hornby is buried is to lead community celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of his birth.

The first ever Hornby Festival, taking place across Maghull on May 15 to 19, is set to offer a range of events involving the whole community, including special Hornby displays and a children's train spotting competition over three days, plus a Victorian Fayre on Saturday, May 18 at King George's Field.

The opening ceremony will be at Maghull Town Hall on Wednesday, May 15 at 7pm.

In attendance will be community and church leaders, including Flo Lawson, a Maghull resident who turns 100 a few weeks later and who will officially open the festival.

Rector of Maghull, The Reverend Canon Nick Wells, who is based at St Andrew's, had the idea two years ago after finding a large model Hornby Railway in his father's house. After visiting Frank Hornby's grave in St Andrew's Churchyard, he realised that 2013 marks 150 years since Frank Hornby's birth.

Nick and a team of community members became the Trustees of the Maghull Hornby

Festival charity, and since then they have worked with community groups around the area to come up with a dedicated programme of events that celebrate Frank Hornby and that showcase the talents of the people of Maghull.

The Rev Canon Nick Wells said: "Frank Hornby was a fine example of what the people of Maghull can do – so as well as celebrating his achievements, this festival is also a real showcase of the talent we have in the area."

Full list of events:

Thursday to Saturday

- Heritage Trail – Collect your Commemorative Booklet and follow the map available from the Kiosk at Maghull Station.
- 10am – 4pm: Flower Festival and refreshments – St Andrew's Church and Ancient Chapel.
- 10am – 4pm: Hornby Displays: St Andrew's Church Hall, Maghull Station and The Meadows Leisure Centre.
- Children's Train Spotting Competition: Maghull Square (up to age 11).

Thursday

- 11am Play about Frank Hornby in St Andrew's Church
- 7.30pm – Pub Quiz – The Frank Hornby Pub (age 18 and over).

- 7.30pm – Concert by Maghull Wind Orchestra – St Andrew's Church, tickets £5.

Friday

- 11am Play about Frank Hornby in St Andrew's Church
- 7.30pm – Old Time Music Hall by Maghull Music Society – Maghull Parish Hall, corner of Deyes Lane and Damfield Lane – Tickets £8 including hot pot supper.

Saturday

- 11am – 4pm Victorian Fayre – with entertainment – King George's Field.
- 10.30am – 5pm Art Exhibition: Deyes High.
- 7.30pm – Comedy Night with Comedy Trust featuring local young comedians. Maghull Parish Hall (corner of Deyes Lane and Damfield Lane) Tickets £5 including curry. Bar available.

Sunday, May 19

- 2pm – Closing Service and Presentations: St Andrew's Church.
- 4pm – Messy Church (Theme Messy Journeys): St Andrew's Church Hall – Children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you are interested in attending any of the ticketed events you can call 0151 531 8972.



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Bomber Bellew teams up with ex-servicemen at Goodison Park

by **Holly Rummens**

A GROUP of ex-servicemen met with boxer Tony Bellew at Goodison Park to help them with overcoming the challenges of re-adjusting back to civilian life.

Light heavyweight fighter Bellew, nicknamed 'The Bomber' teamed up with Everton in the Community's Inside Right programme, which uses sport to reach out to ex-forces personnel who are socially isolated or have lifestyle related problems after returning from the frontline.

Tony, who is also an Everton fan, conducted a boxing coaching master class where he hosted an inspirational question and answer session and offered the group some helpful tips on dealing with stress, being mentally tough and coping with the pressures of being a professional boxer.

Speaking at the event, Tony said: "I was honoured to be asked along today to meet the guys. It was a real privilege to be able to share my experiences with them. In my eyes, anyone who has served their country is a hero, so I was only happy to help out."

"The Everton in the Community scheme is really fantastic. Not many other clubs give back to the local community like Everton. As a fan it makes you really proud to be an Evertonian and I am always happy to help out when I can."

The transition from life in the Armed Forces to that of a civilian is full of challenges and Everton's Inside Right football programme has been specifically designed to help support individuals identify and collaboratively overcome these challenges.

The programme has found that by playing sport, providing coaching qualifications and creating opportunities to compete in leagues and competitions, it has proven hugely effective in helping our troops cope more effectively with the transition back into public life.

John Murphy, a participant from the programme, who served in the British Army for four and half years, said: "Before I started at Everton I just used to sit at home on my own - I



Tony Bellew with ex-servicemen at Goodison Park

had nothing to look forward to or motivate me. "The Inside Right programme has given me a reason to get out of bed, be that to go and play

football or volunteer on one of the programmes. I feel I have a purpose and some direction now and am really excited about the

future."

For more information or to sign up to the Inside Right programme, call 0151 530 5253.

Special Needs charity on the fundraising trail

FAZAKERLY Special Needs Projects are running various schemes this month that will help enable people with disabilities to fulfil their potential.

Some of the projects the charity has to offer include drama and performance, sports and activities and engagement and empowerment. These are all in place to help and support people of all ages with disabilities as well as their families and carers.

To allow these events and activities to happen the charity mainly rely on fundraising and grants from trusts. FSNP currently have fundraising events coming up that they are hoping will raise more money so they can continue to support people with disabilities.

Last Saturday, May 4, the charity held a car boot sale at Fazakerly Memorial Hall but the fundraising hasn't stopped there, with the staff and volunteers who work for the charity embarking on a sponsored walk up Helm Crag in the Lake District on May 27. If you are looking to join in the walk and set yourself a challenge as well as helping out for a good cause visit www.localgiving.co.uk/charity/fsnp for more information.

Fazakerly Special Needs Projects are always looking for people to help and join in with their fundraising events.

If you would like to help this local charity or want to find out more information call 0151 521 7569.

Information appeal after burglary

DETECTIVES in Liverpool North are appealing for information following a burglary in Everton.

The burglary took place on Monday, April 15 at some time between 1pm and 5:30pm, at a flat on St Domingo Grove when 41 pairs of new ladies shoes and boots were stolen.

The scene has been forensically examined and house to house

enquires have been carried out.

Detectives have released images of the stolen footwear and are appealing for anyone who may have offered the stolen shoes or who has information about this burglary to contact St Anne Street CID on 0151 777 4094.

Alternatively, call Crime-stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Quick thinkers needed

A NEW game show is on the hunt for contestants from across Sefton.

12 Yard Productions, who make shows such as Coach Trip and Eggheads, are launching a new game show called 'Twisted' and are looking for people to take part.

Lauren Tee, assistant producer, said: "Are you quick-thinking, cool under pressure with good general knowledge?"

"If the answer is yes, you could be a contestant on ITV's brand new game show and win thousands of pounds in prize money."

To apply for an application form you can email quiz@12yard.com.

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Group named most successful business networkers in the UK

Report by
Stephanie O'Connor

THE Merseyside division of a business networking initiative has been named the most successful in the country.

Business Network International Merseyside, whose members generated more than £13.5m in referrals during the past 12 months, scooped the coveted Region of the Year award at the annual European BNI Conference in Reading, beating competition from 40 regional divisions across the UK and Ireland.

The group was also presented with two separate accolades for the highest growth in membership and group numbers, with total regional membership now standing at almost 1,000 members across 27 local chapters including groups in Crosby, Formby and Southport.

Terry Hamill, executive director of BNI Merseyside, said: "This is a fantastic accolade for us and illustrates the uniquely significant impact that BNI can have for ambitious businesspeople."

"It is also testament to the dedication and passion of our members and consultants who get up early every week to attend meetings and do business."

"Since our inception in 1999, we



The Merseyside division of BNI was named the most successful in the country
Code NA

have seen more than £100m worth of referrals among our membership, which is a staggering amount and reflects the strength of their commitment to BNI.

"The Merseyside division continues

to go from strength to strength and we are looking forward to making thousands more referrals and hopefully picking up a few more awards in the future."

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Weedkillers out in force to spruce up public gardens

Report by
David Raven

CROSBY'S Weedkillers were out in force recently sprucing up public gardens.

The group finished the rockery in Moor Lane and managed to complete a refurbishment of the Princess Diana Memorial Garden and the walled garden.

Organiser Barbara Thomas said: "It was a pleasant morning and everything went to plan."

"Our pink vests stood out and we had a few car horns go off – I guess it was their way of giving support!"

"We've had good feedback and a few members of the community and members came and said hello."

"We'd like to give a big thank you to Martin Sutcliffe for providing us with a good selection of seasonal plants and for those who came and said hello and gave a donation towards our funding projects."

"In March the completion of



The Weedkillers were easy to spot in Crosby with their high visibility vests
Code NA

the rockery on the walled garden was also completed and a selection of spring plants, Heathers and bulbs were planted up.

"We finished just in time

before we were caught in the blizzard of snow."

"To become a Weedkiller, email crosbypastandpresent@gmail.com or ring 07890 181233."

Fundraising Ball for Jan raises £55,000

by Holly Rummens

THE Walton Centre has managed to raise an impressive £55,000 in memory of David Fairclough's late wife by hosting a celebration evening.

The Jan Fairclough Ball at the Hilton Hotel, Liverpool was a sell out with 260 guests as well as receiving support from a host of Liverpool companies such as Fletchers solicitors, Matalan, Barclays Liverpool Contact Centre and David M Robinson jewellers.

The event was in aid of a Home from Home Appeal at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, to build relatives' accommodation and extra rehabilitation facilities.

David, who attended with his children Tom and Sophie, said: "I was very moved when I was asked if the ball could be named after Jan."

"Although Jan could not be saved after a brain aneurysm two years ago, she was given fantastic care at The Walton Centre and all our family were struck by the skills and compassion of the staff."

David helped to organise the ball, sourcing prizes and inviting guests. He added: "I would like to say a big thank you to all our sponsors and to everyone who bought tables and donated prizes. It was an amazing achievement to raise so much money – and a great goal for The Walton Centre's appeal."

The specialist hospital's Chief Executive Dr Liz Mear said: "We are all very moved by David's support for our charity and I am grateful to him for leading the work on organising such a hugely successful ball. It was a fantastic night and it has given us a big step forward in reaching our target of £1



Tom, Liz, David and Sophie at the Charity Code NA



Paul, Sophie and Tom at the Jan Fairclough charity ball
Code NA

million by the end of 2014."

A suite of eight relatives' bedrooms with living room, laundry and kitchen is planned as part of a new, three storey building being developed on the site of the hospital. The relatives' wing will accommodate families of patients, particularly those admitted to Critical Care with serious illnesses and injuries.



Care staff from St Nicholas Care Home who successfully completed the qualification in Dementia Care.

Care home staff receive top qualification

ST Nicholas Care Home staff in Netherton received a top dementia qualification recently.

The BUPA organisation's staff, pictured above, were trained by St Helens based Lowry Training.

Mark Whiteside of Lowry Training, said:

"Good quality training is part of the Government's strategy on combating the challenges dementia brings to our society."

"Ensuring staff are trained to offer care with respect and dignity towards supported individuals is paramount to us and is a fundamental part of our delivery ethos."

Woman charged with assault after alleged attack at hostel

A 24 YEAR OLD woman has been charged by Merseyside Police with assault after another woman was found with serious injuries at a hostel on Lower Breck Road on Tuesday evening.

Gillian Velloza of Lower Breck Road, Anfield has been remanded and is set to

appear at Liverpool Magistrates this morning.

The 29 year old man who was arrested in relation with the incident has been released without charge.

The injured woman is still in hospital and remains in a serious but stable condition.

Big Dunc on slide!

FORMER Everton star, Duncan Ferguson has volunteered himself for the Goodison Parks 2013 Zip Slide.

He will be joined by Blues fans as they zip over the ground in aid of raising money for the club's official charity, Everton in the Community.

It costs £25 to enter and thrill seekers will be sent a free fundraising pack and an exclusive commemorative t-shirt. The Blue's charity are also asking for the participants to raise £100 in sponsorship for taking part, all money raised will be invested back into their charity.

Alternatively, the experience can be purchased as gift for the special Evertonian in your life to zip over the hallowed turf of Goodison Park.

Everton in the Community are celebrating their silver jubilee this year and to mark the 25th anniversary they launched a campaign to reach a target of £1 million.

The Ynys Mon Express

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117/57

Council ask for resident's views on revised Licensing Policy

SEFTON Council is asking for resident's views on its revised Licensing Policy which will take effect later this year.

In November 2005, local authorities replaced Magistrates in regulating liquor licensing and licensed premises and activities, including pubs, clubs, off licences and restaurants.

Under regulations, Sefton Council is required to publish a policy statement which forms the basis for deciding any applications submitted.

An initial statement was written but the authority is now consulting on a revision to its existing policy and is asking people to give their views and opinions by July 24.

People wanting to register their views should send them in writing to: Senior Licensing officer, Licensing Unit, Magdalen House, 30 Trinity Road, Bootle, L20 3NJ, email: licensing@sefton.gov.uk or fax 0151-934 4276.

Further details on the Licensing Policy can be found on www.sefton.gov.uk.

Charity launches tricycle appeal

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

AN URGENT appeal has been launched to find disabled children in Merseyside who could benefit from having a specialist adapted tricycle.

National charity, Caudwell Children, has launched the appeal to find disabled children who would benefit from having their own specially adapted therapy tricycle after receiving funding to help support youngsters in Sefton and Greater Merseyside.

Caudwell Children have received funding to help local disabled children receive the tricycles, which can cost families between £800 and £1,500.

The tricycles are individually designed to specifically meet the needs of each disabled child and help provide physiotherapy, build muscle tone, aid independence and promote social inclusion through play.

However, the charity needs more applicants from the Merseyside area to benefit from this offer.

By launching the appeal, the charity hopes some of the estimated 20,000 families in the region caring for a disabled child will come forward and contact the charity.

Caudwell Children provide family support services, equipment, treatment and therapies for disabled children and their families.

In their 13 year history the Charity has supported thousands of children from across the Merseyside region and now hope to expand their services within local communities.

Trudi Beswick, chief executive of Caudwell Children, said: "We donate hundreds of these therapy tricycles to disabled children throughout the UK each year, but we currently have no applicants in the Merseyside area."

"Disabled children get huge physical and emotional benefits from having the specially adapted tricycles, which are each custom made to suit the individual child's needs."

"As well as providing regular exercise and physical therapy, the tricycles give children a renewed sense of inclusion which improves self-esteem and confidence. We would love to hear from anyone caring for a disabled child who would like to find out more or knows their child will benefit from such a donation."

Anyone wishing to find out more should contact Helen Brandley at Caudwell Children on 01782 600854 or email Helen.Brandley@caudwellchildren.com.

Double-header in Lydiate this weekend

THIS Saturday (May 11) there are two events in Lydiate. It is the day of the Lydiate Festival, and down the road at the Mersey Motorboat Club, Pilling Lane, Ron's Therapeutic Art Group is holding the first day of its ninth exhibition.

The exhibition opens at 11am on both Saturday and Sunday May 11/12, going on until 5pm. Entry is free.

And as well as paintings and other examples of art, there will be painting demonstrations, a burger bar and other refreshments, a raffle and of course paintings for sale.

And a new attraction will be a small band playing beside the canal outside the clubhouse - weather permitting.

The group is to advertise the Lydiate Festival at the nearby Scotch Piper Inn, and hopes many people will take the opportunity of combining both events.

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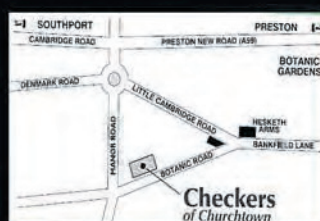
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David and Patsy Moorhead celebrating the success.

Charity raises £10k for Waterloo, Sierra Leone

A CHARITY based in Waterloo has raised an impressive £10,000 this year to help needy people who live in the town's namesake Sierra Leone.

The Waterloo Partnership Thousand Hearts Club has 162 members and each month they give a donation to make a difference to the lives of poor children in the West Africa.

Charity member David Moorhead said: "A pound a month can do so much. Recently I purchased a chocolate bar at Liverpool Lime Street station and was shocked to discover it was ninety pence. "So if people are prepared to

sacrifice two chocolate bars per month, then so much good can be done.

"The most vulnerable people in Waterloo, Sierra Leone only have ten pounds a week to live off and this has to pay for food, housing, health and education. "If they cannot pay, there are no benefits to fall back on. They simply starve and die."

The charity is looking for more people to join the Thousand Hearts Club and help raise more funds.

If you are interested visit www.waterloopartnership.co.uk or send enquiries to 25 Caithness Drive, Crosby L23 0RG.

Valuables stolen from cars in spate of break-ins

Report by **David Raven**

POLICE in South Sefton are reminding motorists not to leave valuables in their cars when parking up following five break-ins in two days.

Two residents in Barberry Crescent, Bootle had a laptop and a purse stolen when their cars were broken into on Tuesday (April 23).

The following night in nearby Park Lane in Netherton, three cars were broken into while the owners were in a local gym with an electronic notebook, a phone and sat nav stolen.

Litherland and Netherton neighbourhood inspector Jim Atherton said several of the victims had left valuables in their vehicles and one may not have locked their car overnight.

He said: "In the case of Barberry Crescent, officers patrolling the streets in the early hours have come across the cars having been broken into."

"Sadly high value items like expensive laptops and purses containing a lot of cash had been left either on display or in the

boot and the offenders have simply smashed a window to get to them.

"This same method has been used the following night at a gym car park in Netherton."

"Each of the crimes is being actively investigated but the chances of them happening could have been minimised if people had taken their belongings with them."

"Thieves are opportunists and will look for signs that a vehicle contains items that are worth stealing. But people can frustrate them by taking a few simple steps whenever leave their vehicle for any period of time."

"Firstly, always lock your car fully and leave it somewhere which is well-lit and, if possible, covered by CCTV cameras."

"Secondly, take every item of value with you when you park up – sat navs leave tell-tale suction marks on your windscreen, car adaptors can indicate something valuable in your boot, and cash."

"And thirdly, register your valuables with the free website Immobilise.com so that if we catch the thief who stole them, we can reunite you with your belongings."

Police appeal over cannabis farm find

POLICE are urging a man they think may have information about a recently discovered cannabis farm to get in touch.

Merseyside Police are appealing for Phom Van Le to come forward as he might have more information about the discovery of a cannabis farm.

The farm was discovered in Percy Street, Bootle in March. A man has since been arrested and charged with this offence but officers think Phom Van Le might be able to help them with more information about the incident. Police would like him to call them on 0151 777 3011 or ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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We look forward to seeing you

1118097

Champ focus on Woodlands Hospice

Fundraising events aim to keep centre 'second to none'



Rose Milnes, chief executive of Woodlands Hospice

by **Holly Rummens**

WOODLANDS Hospice Charitable Trust is an independent charity that specialises in care for people with cancer and other life threatening illnesses, ensuring that patients right to dignity is respected and honoured.

It was back in 1996 when the hospice first opened its doors to patients, after the Duke of Westminster laid one of the first foundation stones. The hospice is now responsible for supplying specialist palliative care to over 330,000 people in North Liverpool, South Sefton, Kirkby and Knowsley.

Woodlands have consistently worked towards improving its services to the local community, following a successful Capital Appeal in 2006 the hospice managed to raise £2.37 million used to build a 15 bed In Patient unit, which was officially opened in June 2009 by Ken Dodd.



Woodlands Hospice currently

Code NA

The hospice is located on the grounds of Aintree Hospital although it is not funded through the NHS it does receive a grant towards their services, by being located on a hospital site is beneficial for residents as services such as scans, treatments and blood tests are all available within walking distance if ever needed.

Woodlands Hospice has strived in creating a relaxed and calm atmosphere for all their patients providing all the necessary facilities needed to accommodate all types of illnesses and ensuring a welcoming environment for when family or friends come to visit.

Currently the hospice hosts many fundraising events throughout the year to allow them to secure the future stability of the hospice facilities, their main event which takes place every year the Starlight walk raises up to £30,000 a year.

Their other fundraising events involve a Light up a Life campaign which takes place every Christmas and raises up to £20,000 each year.

To allow the hospice to keep all of its services free of charge to all of its patients it requires up to £2,000 a day in fundraising or donations. Rose Milnes, Chief Executive of Woodlands Hospice commented on this saying: "Hospice at Home is a beneficial service to the community so it would be great if we could expand this to further areas and not just South Sefton."

"It is sad to say that at some point many people will eventually require our services here at Woodlands Hospice as we provide specialist care for palliative care and life threatening illnesses, with our multi professional team we manage to supply of variety of services and support to all our patients."

Rose continued: "The moment our patients walk through the doors here at Woodlands Hospice they always comment on how much they feel safe here, I am pleased that the environment we have created makes our patients feel this way as we ensure that our quality of care is always second to none."

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If you are interested in taking part in any of Woodlands Hospice fundraising events you can take a look at their website www.woodlandshospice.org or contact Carole Riley on 0151 529 2631.

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Thornton Relief Road green light

Report by **David Raven**

WORK on a new relief road to allow easier access between Sefton and the region's motorways has finally been given the green light, more than 40 years after the campaign was first launched.

The road will consist of a single carriageway link road between Thornton (Southport Road, Long Lane and Ince Road junction) and the Switch Island junction.

The scheme also includes: "Amendments to the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency dept at Switch Island, associated landscaping measures, attenuation ponds and traffic management measures on the local highway network."

It will become the A5758 Broom's Cross Road – Broom's Cross is the site of a medieval wayside cross near Thornton.

Although only the base stone of the original cross remains, it is said to be the most important historic site in the vicinity of the new link road.

Sefton Council's Labour leader, Councillor Peter Dowd, said the road has been a long time coming.

Cllr Dowd said: "We've waited a long time for this. Each time we thought we had passed the final hurdle, another obstacle was placed in our way. But this is finally it."

"I am delighted for the people of Thornton who have campaigned long and hard for this relief road to ease the heavy congestion in the community."

"The rest of the borough will also benefit as congestion on roads throughout Sefton will be eased as the new relief road takes the strain and the £19m investment here will be a major



Switch Island

boost for our local economy." Cabinet member for transportation, Labour's Cllr John Fairclough, praised Sefton Council officers for "negotiating the detailed technical details" behind the scheme.

Cllr Fairclough said: "Councillors and council officers have put the hours in on finally getting to the stage where we can at last say that the Thornton Relief Road has been given the green light."

"That work has involved dealing with all of the very technical legal details involved in a scheme of this magnitude, particularly in relation to building on land which has been owned by the Crown."

"But they have all pulled out the stops and delivered. This is great news for Sefton."

Sefton Central Labour MP Bill Esterson said he was delighted for everyone who had campaigned for the road.

Mr Esterson said: "Throughout my time in Sefton, the Thornton Relief Road was one of the biggest issues which people raised with me."

"This is a massive boost for the infrastructure of Sefton and for the local economy."

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Champion **LETTERS to the Editor**

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Try cutting wages instead

I am sick and tired of opening the newspaper to see pictures of smug councillors telling us what they have to cut next, this time it is Meals on Wheels and also they are going to charge for green bins.

However, one thing they never cut are their own wages and expenses.

If things are so tough how about them showing an example, giving up their wages and doing the job voluntarily, like the Councillors of the past.
 Not much chance of that though.
 They are too greedy.

John Lyon-Taylor,
 By email

It's up to us now – give me a hand and clean up the litter

I sympathise fully with S Taylor's frustration at littering around Sefton.

I know. I'd like to catch them too but most of it is tossed out at night so it's hard to prosecute.

Some if it blows in from sports fields where parents and players leave their litter on the grass.

Unbelievable but true.

This will sound preachy but the only solution with our hard pressed local councils working on essentials us to pick the stuff up ourselves.

I cycle on Holgate in Thornton every week and last weekend I'd had enough and with bags and gloves I parked up and cleared the lane down to the first right hand bend.

I cleared five bags of rubbish and a bag of cans and bottles.

Local residents of Holgate have immaculate

gardens but the verges outside their gates are a sea of litter.

Dog walkers tut at the litter, never pick any up, and then some of them add their little bags to the mess.

The simple truth is if everyone on foot picked something up and left nothing themselves our quieter lanes would be cleaner.

Meanwhile, once a month I'll be out.

If you see me – give me a hand.

On Holgate residents looked at me as if I was crazy.

We can't stop all littering but the lanes belong to us not the council and we have to play our part in keeping our area clean.

Just complaining about it changes nothing.

Dan Kenyon, By email

Respect views on marriage

It is disappointing to see how the Champion reported on the campaign against redefining the legal definition of marriage.

If the newspaper wanted to present a balanced, informed and professional account, it ought to have gone to original sources and not tried to give the false impression that it understood the issues involved in the debate by quoting brief passages from published information.

That is lazy journalism.

The Champion would have learned that over 600,000 concerned people have already signed a petition to protest against the governments plan to change the legal definition of marriage, a definition that has existed in law for centuries.

It could have reported that the plan to redefine marriage was not in the Conservative party manifesto.

Your newspaper would also note that opposition to the proposed changes comes from all sections of society.

The debate concerning the impact on education and marital law could have been explored.

You could have looked at the way in which Nick Clegg attempted to marginalise the majority by attempting to label opponents of redefining marriage as 'bigots'.

There are other aspects you could have reported on but lost the opportunity to inform your readership about the real issues involved.

Instead you chose to describe the presence of campaigners in Waterloo recently as 'controversial' when in fact all the evidence seems to suggest that it is the governments plans that are controversial, that many, many ordinary folks would rather the coalition government focused on the economy, jobs and increasing poverty.

I was one of the group of 'controversial campaigners' in Waterloo recently.

We were not as you say, distributing leaflets, but engaging with members of the public to seek their views and where possible, politely ask them to sign the petition.

Many local people agreed with us, some did not and we respected their views and wishes.

Tom McLelland,
 By email

PICTURE of the week

www.champnews.com/pixonline

Champagne football

An explosion of champagne cascades over the champions as Skelmersdale United FC celebrate winning the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League First Division North.

Picture by Martyn Snape.

Code: 1058591.



Two fingers

AFTER Sefton Council closes Aintree Village library are they going to reduce our tax? Are they going to add another late opening to Maghull Library for us?

Or is it just the two-fingered salute to us plebs who stupidly pay the council tax?

Disgruntled,
 Old Roan.

Green waste collections should be free and extended to plastic

The council's decision to charge for green waste collection is a mistake.

It has taken many years to build up a culture of recycling in Britain and everything should be done to encourage us all to continue and improve on what we do now.

Despite Sefton being one of the best recycling councils in the north west at about 40% recycling, we are still a long way behind many of our European neighbours where levels of 60 and 70% are achieved.

Rather than charging for recycling we should be extending the kerbside collection to include cardboard and plastic as many other councils already do.

While some may be able to use garden

composting, many will have to take their green waste to the local civic amenity site with the resulting environmental and social impact of more car journeys; worse still is the likely increased flytipping of garden waste.

People will wonder what the council will think of charging for next?

I would also say that the so called consultation on the decision is a sham.

It involved asking little more than how much people would be prepared to pay, rather than offering any real say in how the proposal is taken forward.

Laurence Rankin,
 Sefton Green Party

Central Square is now shabby and rundown

So much for Maghull Developments wishing to "raise the tone" by banning the Animas in Need charity table each Saturday.

Perhaps they should look at how they have failed to raise the standards and attract more shoppers.

Whilst accepting that the economic climate deters development, Maghull Developments have failed to landscape the land adjacent to HSBC which was on the approved development plan.

They removed many trees which

provided screening and have only planted four small saplings.

Instead they allow litter, builders debris and shop waste to build up and make this an eyesore.

I know many people who prefer to shop in Formby, Aintree and Ormskirk rather than in shabby rundown Central Square.

Perhaps Maghull residents are going to experience the deterioration of their shops in the same way Crosby folk have.

A concerned Maghull resident,
 By email

Write to the Editor at
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Motor Neurone Disease Association ball to be held at Racecourse

THE MERSEYSIDE Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association will host its 30th anniversary ball at Aintree Racecourse on Saturday, May 18.

MNDA Merseyside has been supporting people living with motor neurone disease, their families and friends for three decades. Sarah Milner, Joint secretary for MNDA

Merseyside said: "Motor neurone disease is a condition which can effect anyone at any age.

"There is no known cause or cure and our aim is to increase understanding and awareness as well as raise money for research.

"Aintree Racecourse is such an iconic

venue for Merseyside and we're really looking forward to hosting this special event here."

The black tie event will have a drinks reception, a three-course meal and local band Rollercoaster will play.

Tickets are £35 each, to book call Peter Marrs on 0151 523 5547.

Law firm in cuts warning

North West will suffer Maxwell Hodge has said

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

A SEFTON Law firm warns that the North West will suffer from legal advice deserts as £350m is cut from the legal aid budget.

The government has made extensive cuts to civil legal aid which has put many legal firms at risk and led to the closure of several centres which offer free legal advice.

Claire Banks, lawyer at Maxwell Hodge said: "Across the UK we are seeing the pool of legal advice available drying up; the Red Cross has even warned that it could be forced to withdraw expert help for family reunion claims and the house charity Shelter has shut down nine advice offices in England.

"Closer to home we've seen Citizens Advice Bureaux and advice centres shutting on the Wirral and Warrington, this is a taste of things to come."

Civil legal aid is now no longer available for cases involving divorce, child custody, clinical negligence, welfare, employment, immigration, housing, debt, benefit and education.

Claire added: "My concern now is that vulnerable people in the North West will struggle to get the advice they need. Many will rely on advice from private law firms but many of these firms could be under threat with legal aid cuts.

"There are firms like ourselves which will take on cases such as clinical negligence claims through no win no fee arrangements or will carry out fixed price work in some areas, but the reality is there will be less legal advice available than before, and claimants will find access to justice harder to come by."

Zumbathon invitation

A CHARITY Zumbathon will take place in Crosby to raise money to help sufferers of motor neurone disease.

The event will be held on Saturday, May 18, from 2-4pm at Merchant Taylors' Boys School costing £7. For more information call 07581879117.



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From one extreme to the other!



Skate park has plans to expand

by **Holly Rummens**

EUROPE'S largest indoor skate park Rampworx, is riding on the crest of a wave!

The Aintree based facility is a registered charity that offers a safe and structured environment to aspiring youngsters as young as five years old to practice BMX riding, skateboarding and inline skating.

The skate park is over 55,000 square foot and is set to expand into surrounding warehousing units.

More than 1,300 skaters attend Rampworx each week and the new plans should help bring another 400 visitors to the park.

Founder of Rampworx skate park, Ian Robinson said: "Rampworx has already come along way since we first launched back in 1999, and we're very proud of all that we've achieved and the positive impact we've had on thousands of young peoples lives. However, we're also aware that there's so many more young people we could be supporting so it's really important for us to keep growing and developing as a charity."

Rampworx on Leckwith Road, Aintree, obtained charitable status in April 2003 by expanding personal development programmes, such as drug and alcohol awareness, sexual health and healthy eating workshops. Rampworx has also been known to host a series of National and International sports events that attract some of the worlds top riders.

Creating extra space for more skaters will mean more funding for the skate park to put towards its coaching plans that they have on offer for schools.

Rampworx offers structured coaching programmes for beginners, intermediate and advanced riders. They have been known to

work closely with local councils, schools and youth clubs to deliver outreach projects in deprived and disadvantaged areas of the Northwest.

Community and Sports Development manager, Tony Berry, added to this saying: "Rampworx is a unique project which is an integral part of the extreme sports community. It is also a community sports and youth hub that allows young people to progress and develop through the range of sports and development projects we offer which improve and enhance the lives of those who attend."

"Not only do we churn out elite World class extreme sports athletes, but we also like to think we develop young people as individuals who can make a positive contribution to their own and lives and the communities that they live in."

Rampworx has also featured in a PS2 game plus being involved in an EA sports launch event and in 2007 they obtained funding for portable equipment courtesy of Mersey Fire and Rescue service allowing them to take equipment to communities and skate parks throughout the North West.

Chairman of Rampworx, Andrew Coombes said: "I feel very privileged to be Chairman of this unique voluntary organisation at such an exciting time in our projects evolution. I have always shared Rampworx vision of providing excellent facilities for extreme sports, whilst developing young people physically and personally. It has a very special ethos and one that I believe will lead to continued success in the future."



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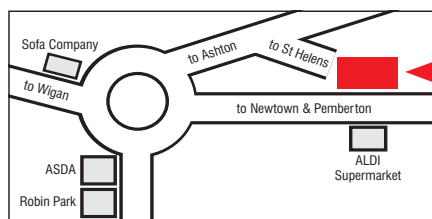
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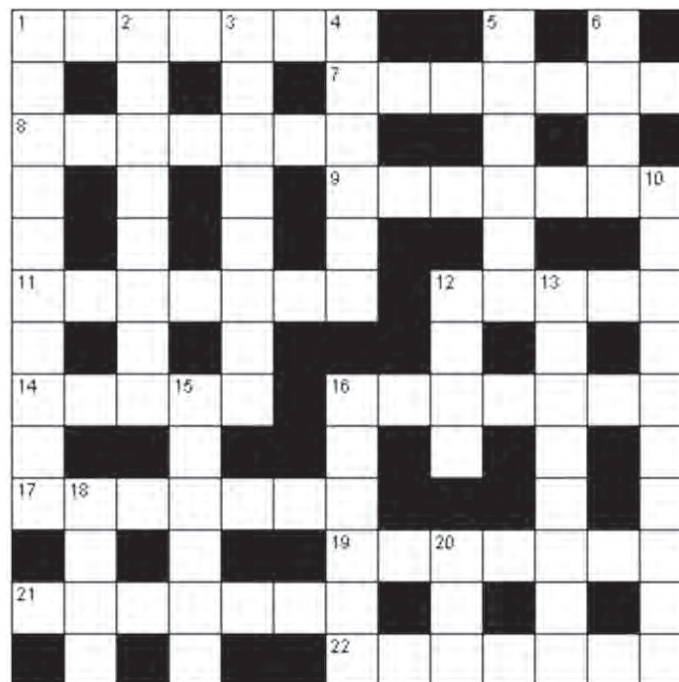
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- 1 Someone who eats or consumes an immoderate amount of food and drink (7)
- 7 Guided through (7)
- 8 A person who inflicts punishment in return for a bad deed (7)
- 9 British rock band formed in 1977 Dire _____ (7)
- 11 Living organisms that are not human (7)
- 12 A city in the United Arab Emirates, located within the emirate of the same name (5)
- 14 90s brit pop band involved in a feud with fellow group Blur (5)
- 16 Crushed and bent beyond recognition (7)
- 17 Become larger or rounder in size (7)
- 19 Receive money or property as a result of a person's death (7)
- 21 Title given to a married Italian woman (7)
- 22 A person who makes or mends shoes (7)

DOWN

- 1 Popular Saturday night game show in the 90s with regular characters including Wolf and Jet (10)
- 2 Implements used around the household (8)
- 3 A small, powerful vessel used to tow large boats and ships (8)
- 4 People trained to look after the sick or infirm (6)
- 5 The feeling you have seen an event before when it is in fact happening in the present (4,2)
- 6 Attack repeatedly by hurling objects (4)
- 10 A person employed to give a favorable interpretation of events to the media (4,6)
- 12 Immerse or dip (4)
- 13 A castle located in Aberdeenshire belonging to the Queen (8)
- 15 An area of land surrounded by water (6)
- 16 Someone displaying extreme symptoms of wild behaviour (6)
- 18 An instrument used for flogging (4)
- 20 A flat metal shelf used for cooking (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

Across: 1 Lemonade, 5 Taxi, 9 Valet, 10 Henna, 11 Rabbi, 12 Ufo, 13 Rut, 14 His, 15 Gusto, 16 Ups, 17 Cue, 18 Par, 19 Kes, 20 Never, 22 Ebb, 24 Aol, 26 Tunic, 27 Nerve, 28 Thief, 30 Yoga, 31 Thornton.
Down: 1 Lavish, 2 Molluscs, 3 Nitrogen, 4 Doubts, 6 Aunaturel, 7 Icarus, 8 Chiropractor, 19 Kidney, 21 Vanish, 23 Boffin, 25 Drug, 26 Tea, 29 Ist.

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Free anti-scald bath valves for families with under 5s

Report by **David Raven**

FAMILIES in Sefton with a child under five years old are being offered a free 'anti-scald' valve fitted to their bath taps.

Each year thousands of young children across the country are taken to hospital after being scalded by hot bath water.

Now Sefton's Public Health, Sefton Council and One Vision Housing are teaming up to offer parents a device that cools hot water down before it gets to the tap.

Dr Janet Atherton, Sefton's director of Public Health, said: "In most homes the water from the bath tap is hot enough to scald a child in only one second."

"This is why Sefton families are being offered Thermostatic Mixer Valves (TMVs).

"By supplying and fitting them for free we aim to reduce the risk of children being scalded by hot bath water."

"They work by mixing hot and cold water before it gets to the hot tap. When the hot tap is turned on, the water coming out of it is between 44°C and 48°C."

"At this temperature it would take more than five minutes to scald your child. By reducing the temperature of the water we are aiming to reduce the number of children getting scalded at bath time."

"Scalds are more likely to happen when a child climbs or falls into a bath of hot water or a brother or sister runs the hot tap when a younger child is in



Helen Pilkington and partner Greg Pennington enjoy bath times with Finley a lot more now the TMV is fitted. Code NA

the bath.

"So, leaving your child, even for a moment, in the bath or bathroom without an adult is long enough for a scald to happen."

Helen Pilkington a Sefton mum, of two and a half year old Finley, said: "I was really concerned about bathing Finley, as our hot tap was always really hot."

"When I found out about the free valve we jumped at the chance to have it fitted. The workmen arranged a convenient time and they were done and dusted in about an hour."

"I can't tell you how pleased we are its really helped giving us peace of mind that we can just put Finley straight in the bath. The valve has just brought the temperature down enough not to worry about him being scalded and it's still warm enough for us to enjoy a bath."

If you have a child under five years old and would like to have a TMV fitted for free in your home, then call Sefton Council on 0845 140 0845.

For more information on scalds visit www.nhs.uk or if you need advice on scalds call NHS Direct on 0845 46 47.



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*WHEN BOUGHT WITH EQUIVALENT SIZE UNDERLAY





Christi with some of her junior Yoga Bugs at Aintree's Kiddicare store last Monday.
Code1058420

Catch the yoga bug!

Report by **Holly Rummens**

A NEW yoga programme has been launched to help promote children's fitness in Merseyside.

Yogabugs have created the latest craze to keep your children fit and healthy. The franchise are responsible for spreading the motto 'the one bug your kids should catch – the yoga bug!'

Christi Smith, a Crosby mother, took the plunge to become a trained Yogabug instructor after she became redundant, and now delivers the classes to children from three to seven years as well as offering birthday parties and events.

Christi said: "I'm so excited to bring Yogabugs to the area. As well as the classes in Aintree, I'm really looking forward to

introducing our innovative yoga inspired programme to schools, nurseries, children's and community centres in the area and taking more children on our magical adventures.

"A large part of my role will be creating links with local schools and community centres and encouraging them to take on Yogabugs classes."

Using dynamic story telling acted out through safe Hatha postures, Yogabugs takes children on imaginary adventures such as expeditions to Africa on safari, intergalactic space missions and undersea adventures.

Yoga can help maintain a child's natural flexibility and develops agility and stamina. Breathing exercises improve concentration and energy levels, whilst promoting healthy sleeping patterns.

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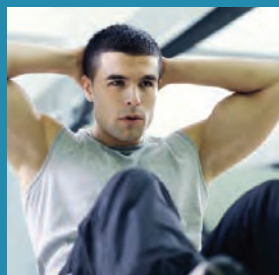


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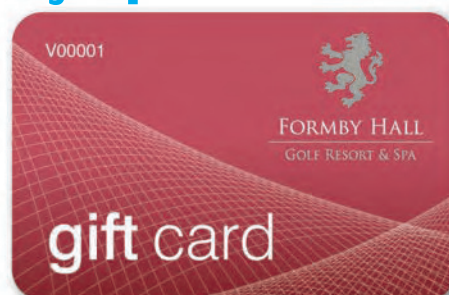
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Birds, bats and brews in the park on the way

Report by **David Raven**

BATS, birds and brews will all be seen in parks in south Sefton during May in a number of events organised by Sefton Council's community parks officers.

Coronation Park in Crosby will be the venue for The Guy Martin Big Brew which takes place on May 11/12. Teas, coffees and cream teas will be on offer in the park raising money for ground-breaking research to find treatments for paralysis caused by spinal cord injury.

Organised by the community parks officers along with The Friends of Coronation and Alexandra Parks, the Guy Martin Big Brew is sponsored by Tesco, Bridge Road Motorcycles and Asda and takes place between 11am-1pm on both days.

During the Big Brew there will be a competition to see who can make a set of or grow the funniest set of mutton chop sideburns – similar to Guy Martin's – and win a prize.

Community parks officers have also organised a bird and bat walk in the Marine Gardens in Waterloo on May 11.

Officers from the RSPB will lead a bird walk around the gardens to see how many different species can be spotted.

The walk starts at 7pm meeting in Marine Terrace, opposite the Royal Hotel, and anyone who attends is asked to bring along a pair of binoculars if they have them.

At 8pm the emphasis switches to nocturnal creatures with a chance to meet some real bats up close and personal.

Members from Merseyside and West Lancashire Bat Group will be leading the talk and walk around the gardens and there will be a chance to listen to bats via bat detectors provided on the evening.

The talk and walk will finish about 9.30pm and participants are again asked to meet at the Marine Terrace opposite the Royal Hotel for 8pm and bring along a torch if they have one.

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50 things to do before you are 12? Been there, done some of them

I WAS fascinated by an article in my daily paper about the 50 adventures every child should have before the age of 12.

I thought I would be able to tick virtually all the boxes – but I was reckoning without the new additions, some of which, to be fair, weren't even available before I was 12. Or for that matter for several decades after.

But starting from the top of the list, compiled by the National Trust, I certainly had climbed a tree and rolled down several big hills.

Just as well it didn't mention the getting down again from the big tree (always a problem for me) – or the scolding I once got while on a picnic with my parents for getting grass stains on my best shirt through my rolling down exercises.

Still, been there, done them.

Mind you I never camped out in the wild or flew a kite.

The latter was something I truly regret and hope one day yet to fulfil.

But for long bike rides, damming streams, playing conkers, exploring inside a cave and building a raft or checking out creatures in a rock pond – then I was your boy.

Some activities listed such as learning to horse ride or canoe down a river were beyond my means though donkey rides (without crash helmets)



were a part of holiday life.

I still wouldn't know a geocache if I fell over one – and in any case no-one those days had the not-yet-invented GPS apparently necessary – and as for holding a scary beast, well I did grab my best friend 'Fatty' Smith from time to time. (Couldn't have such a friend these days though).

Mind you, my friends and I outdid some of these present-day explorers (how did catching a falling leaf get onto the list?) by quite a long way.

'Find some frogspawn' is one activity we did. We found the frogspawn in a ditch at the bottom of the garden and decided to build ourselves a 'taddery'.

The idea was to dam the ditch (another activity to be crossed off) and create a kind of hatchery in which

we could watch the frogspawn develop into tadpoles and eventually transform into frogs.

All in the interest of science.

I went well into the tadpole stage. But then the weather changed for the better (or worse as it turned out for the tadpoles).

Because of the hot weather we had to keep adding water to the taddery. And one day we were called in for lunch – and by the time we returned the whole thing had disastrously dried out.

Taught us a lesson though.

And then there was our pottery making enterprise. Didn't see that on the list.

Simple, we found an old metal bucket with the bottom rusted out and realised it bore a distinct resemblance to kilns we'd seen on TV.

So with the aid of a spade, (to dig a hole in the garden) and an old metal foot scraper for a base to put our pots on, we were almost ready for business.

Clay from the sides of a local brook, and bits of wood and coal to light under the foot scraper and – Hey Presto – we had a working pottery which produced mainly egg cups which we christened 'Chunky Ware.'

Let modern kids try that one on for size!

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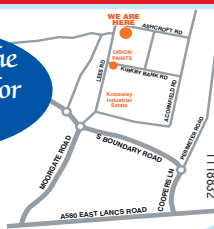
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Juicy role for 'presenter'

A MERSEYSIDE radio station is offering one listener in the region the chance to co-present its breakfast show over the summer.

Juice FM in Liverpool are searching for someone to temporarily take over from breakfast DJ Leanne Campbell, who is off on maternity leave.

The lucky 'recruit' will spend two months co-hosting the 6am show, which is broadcast across Liverpool and beyond on DAB digital radio, with Adam Weighell.

Potential recruits can upload audition videos to the Juice FM website to showcase their talents, whilst an Open Audition Day takes place on Sunday, May 12 from 10.30am at the One Park West studios.

Programme controller Mark Kaye told The Champion: "This is an amazing opportunity for someone who is sick of their current job, or



The breakfast show team at Juice FM

Code NA

needs a helping hand getting started in radio.

More information is available online at www.juicefm.com



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Bid for a share of £35k community cash pot from housing provider

Report by **Stephanie O'Connor**

A HOUSING provider based in Sefton is now accepting applications for its community grant scheme and are urging residents not to miss their chance to bid for a share of £35,000.

Adactus Housing Group is calling on residents, community groups and voluntary organisations to submit bids for projects that will benefit people living in communities across Sefton.

Last years Neighbourhood Fund supported numerous local projects that included healthy living sessions, improvements to communal gardens, community clean up days and activities for young people, to name but a few.

Lindsay Greenhalgh, neighbourhood development officer at Adactus, said: "We've supported some great projects over the years, through the Neighbourhood Fund, and we're really looking forward to seeing some new, creative, exciting ideas for projects this year."

Applications to the fund, now in its fourth year, are judged by a group of local residents who have the final say in which projects are awarded funding through the scheme.

Mike Murphy, regional manager at Adactus, added: "It's great news that we are able run the scheme again."

"The money is available because of efficiency savings we have made as a Group. We have been able to deliver exciting projects in the past



Lindsay Greenhalgh, Neighbourhood Development Officer at Adactus.

and are looking forward to doing the same this year."

For further details and applications forms go to www.adactushousing.co.uk email grantwest@chorleych.co.uk or call 01257 244 800.

Bids to the fund must be received before the closing date of Friday, May 17.

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217587 Kirkstone Road North Litherland L21 7NU House/CH/DG/family with 2, 3 or 4 children



218094 Bedford Road Bootle L20 2DT House/CH/DG/family 3, 4, 5 or 6 children/grabrails/handrails



217921 Smithy Green Formby L37 3PN UF flat/CH/DG/single/couple with support need

General need properties

This is a selection of the homes that are available this week. To view the full list of properties or to register please visit www.propertypoolplus.org.uk

Property ID	Beds	Street	Area	Property type	Property criteria	Property extras	Total rent inc service and other charges
217855	1 Bed	Captains Close	Bootle L30 9SJ	GF Bedsit	Single/couple	CH/DG/no pets	£69.07
217856	1 Bed	Poulsom Drive	Bootle L30 2NN	GF Flat	Single/couple	CH/DG	£72.02
217836	2 Bed	Ryefield Lane	Litherland L21 0HD	GF Flat	Single/couple/family with 1 or 2 children	CH/DG/no pets	£89.44
217881	2 Bed	Appleby Drive	Bootle L30 2NX	GF Flat	Single/couple/family with 1 or 2 children	CH/DG	£81.46
217904	2 Bed	The Marian Way	Netherton L30 3TD	GF Maisonette	Single/couple/family with 1 or 2 children	CH/DG/no pets	£85.37
217901	2 Bed	Longfield Road	Litherland L21 8LB	UF Flat	Single/couple/family with 1 or 2 children	CH/DG/no pets	£85.98
217900	2 Bed	Kirkstone Road North	Litherland L21 9HL	House	Family with 1 or 2 children	CH/DG	£85.77
217593	3 Bed	Tumilty Avenue	Bootle L20 9HX	House	Family with 1, 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG/no pets	£92.48
217594	3 Bed	Southwark Grove	Netherton L30 1QJ	House	Family with 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG	£93.77
217916	3 Bed	Buckingham Close	Bootle L30 2PL	House	Family with 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG	£93.77
217972	3 Bed	Riley Avenue	Bootle L20 0BA	House	Family with 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG	£92.48
217974	3 Bed	Tumilty Avenue	Bootle L20 9HU	House	Family with 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG	£92.48
217983	3 Bed	Lawton Avenue	Bootle L20 0BH	House	Family with 2, 3 or 4 children	CH/DG/stairlift/walk in shower/hand rails	£92.48

Supported need properties

To bid for the properties below, applicants should have support needs and require the assistance of a Scheme Manager. Support needs will be assessed by a member of staff before allocation.

218056	1 Bed	Faulkner Close	Southport PR8 3LF	GF Flat	Single/couple 55+	CH/DG/no pets	£93.87
218006	2 Bed	Wren House	Bootle L20 4EQ	HR Flat	Single/couple/adult household 55+	CH/DG/no pets	£126.69

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Advice sessions to give Merseysiders a leg-up the property ladder

Liverpool residents who are dreaming of owning their own home are being invited to a series of special drop-in sessions for advice on the latest government finance options designed to get people on to the property ladder.

Award-winning housebuilder Keepmoat is holding drop-in advice surgeries on Saturday 11th, and Sunday 12th May between 11am and 4pm at its Regency Park development in Bootle, and The Parks in Anfield.

First time buyers and those who already own a property and are seeking to move are all welcome.

Advice will include details about the government's new Help to Buy scheme, which is designed to help more people get the keys to their own home.

The scheme means purchasers need only save a 5% deposit and find a mortgage for 75% of the property price. The remaining 20% of

the property price is covered by an equity loan, which can be paid back within 25 years, or on the sale of the home.

The scheme is available at both developments and means a stylish two bedroom Normanby home at the popular The Parks scheme is available for just £71,995 (usual price £89,995), while a luxurious, three bedroom end terrace Violet style home can be snapped up for £87,195 (usual price £108,995).

Jen Brown, Sales Director at Keepmoat, said: "There are many thousands of people in the region who have almost given up on the dream of home ownership, due to difficulties in getting a mortgage – but the picture is actually now brighter than some might think.

"There are some fantastic deals around at the moment, as well as new financial support

packages, which can make budgets stretch much further and make it far easier to get together that initial deposit.

"We hope that our advice surgeries will provide food for thought for prospective purchasers, and provide fresh hope to those who had resigned themselves to a lifetime of renting.

Advice sessions are being held at Keepmoat's development at:

The Parks – Robson Street, Anfield L5 6RG.
Sales office open Thursday to Sunday 10am to 5pm or Monday 10am to 6pm.
Call 0151 909 2496

Regency Park – Balliol Road, Bootle L20 7EA.
Sales office open Thursday to Sunday 10am to 5pm or Monday 10am to 6pm.
Call 0151 909 2497

More information is also available at keepmoat.com



'Own Your Own Home' Weekend

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May

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Anfield L5 6RG
0151 909 2496

Regency Park,
Balliol Road,
Bootle L20 7EA
0151 909 2497

Talk to us about how we can make buying easy.

keepmoat.com

We're open Thursday to Sunday, 10am – 5pm, Monday 10am – 6pm

Move in with a 5% deposit. Help to Buy now available



Computer generated image of The Southwold



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Five coming to city in November

Report by
Henry James

FOLLOWING their success on the sell out The Big Reunion tour and ITV2 series, one of the UK's most successful boyband's Five are embarking on their own headline tour this winter coming to the Echo Arena Liverpool on November 19.

Scott, Ritchie, Abz and Sean reunited earlier this year for the ITV2 series The Big Reunion and showed the country just why they are one of the UK's most popular bands.

Five enjoyed success worldwide, particularly in the United Kingdom, throughout Europe, Asia, Australasia, North and South America. They split up on September 27, 2001, after selling over 20 million records worldwide, having 11 top ten singles, three number 1's, and four top ten albums in the UK, selling out Arena tours, and picking up just about every achievable award including Brits and MTV awards.

This show will see the band performing all their greatest hits live. Five said: "We are so happy to be on our own headline tour again after all these years playing all the hits. We are truly grateful to each and every one of the fans for their continuous support. We can't wait to get on the road and perform our full set of Greatest Hits again. Let's sav it."

For more information log onto www.echoarena.com



Five

Code NA

The Blues Band rock and roll with the best of them

Review by **Ron Ellis**

- The Blues Band
- The Atkinson, Southport

PAUL Jones, at 71 vying with Cliff Richard for the title of Peter Pan of Pop, arrived back in Southport on Saturday night for his third visit in four years, this time with The Blues Band, his last two appearances being a jazz gig with Digby Fairweather and his pop star outing with The Manfreds.

The Blues Band have been playing together on and off now for 34 years and they are unequalled in Europe as the number one blues outfit.

On the night they covered a wide range of material with slide guitar virtuoso, Dave Kelly; part-time Manfred, Tom McGuinness, and Gary Fletcher taking turns on vocals and Paul Jones switching roles between singing and playing harmonica. Rob Townsend on drums completed the line-up.

The set opened with one of the classic blues standards, Mississippi Fred McDowell's Few Short Lines with Dave Kelly and Tom McGuinness sharing vocals. I particularly liked their version of New Stockyard Blues while Paul Jones had the audience singing along with Suddenly I Like it.

My only reservation about The Blues Band is the absence of a decent blues pianist.

There is only so much a harmonica can do and someone in the style of the late Johnnie Johnson, who played on all the early Chuck Berry hits, would be ideal, and never more so than for the closing titles of the evening, Big Joe Turner's Shake Rattle and Roll and



Paul Jones of The Blues Band. Photo by Ron Ellis

Chuck Berry's Little Queenie where Paul Jones treated us to his impression of the Duck Walk and Tom McGuinness showed he could rock and roll with the best of them as he played guitar behind his head.

"You are lucky to have a venue as wonderful as this, especially in these difficult times. So make sure you use it," said Tom McGuinness, addressing the audience. He added how honoured they all were to be the first band to play in Southport's "prestigious new venue." Let us hope they took notice.

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Contact Cheryl on: 07793776049
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EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

THE TUTE
THE AUGHTON INSTITUTE

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Haydock Race Trip
Saturday 22nd June 1.30pm Start

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A Night at the Opera in Parish Church

THE Una Voce Opera Company is presenting A Night at the Opera in the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Bridge Road, Blundellsands.

It will feature David Ellis, former principal baritone at Covent Garden Opera House and Aaron Cawley, the up-and-coming Irish Tenor, who has just returned from the International Opernwerkstatt in Switzerland.

They will be joined by Lorna Rushton, soprano, who has just been engaged to sing Lady Macbeth by COMO in the Autumn. All three Singers are pupils of Doctor Robert Alderson.

The event will take place this Saturday (May 11), 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

For more information call 0151-924-8972

FAIRS & SALES

BURSCOUGH GIANT BOOT SALE

EVERY SUNDAY

Now at The Showground, Pippin St, Burscough L40 7SP
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FAIRS & SALES

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CARS £10 VANS £15
Hard Standing 8am - 1pmFUTURE DATES: May 19th, 26th; June 16th, 30th; July 7th, 14th,
21st, 28th; September 22nd, 29th; October 13th, 20th, 27th

Call Dave on 01704 827167 or 07932 844130

Bootle Car Boot Every Sunday
www.carbootle.co.uk**WATERLOO FARMERS MARKET****Friday 10th May 2013**
10.30am - 3pm**WATERLOO FLEA MARKET****Saturday 11th May 2013**
9.30am - 1pmat Old Christ Church
Waterloo Road Waterloo L22 1RE**THE COTTAGE GARDEN SOCIETY**
LANCASHIRE AND NORTH WEST GROUP**PLANT SALE**

at Lydiat Parish Hall,

288 Southport Road, Lydiat L31 4EQ
on Saturday 11th May 2013 11.00am-3.00pmAdmission £1. Under 16's Free
Old Cottage Garden Favourites • Specialist Plant Stalls
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Tina Lloyd 01704 550154 or Peter Curi 01704 893713
www.nwcgs.org.uk

FAIRS & SALES

Ince Blundell Village Hall Social Club

Car Boot Sale

Sunday 12th May 8am - 12 noon

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EVERY SUNDAY

All weather 9am - 12 noon. Sellers 8.30am

Pitches from £7.50. Table Hire £2.50 extra

For info tel. 07814 032114 or 0151 222 0833 (after 6pm)

No need to book

EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

Southport Spiritualist Church
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invites you to a Special Evening of

Clairvoyanceon Wednesday 15th May
at 7.30pm-9.00pm
with excellent medium**Agnes Davies**
from Liverpool

For further information telephone

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£5 Non-members. £4 Members. Payable on the door

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TV Series**Directed by**
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18th May 2013
7.45pm

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MISC

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Sandfield Rd, Clayfield Cl, Hawthorne Rd (part), St Pauls Place, Trinity Rd (& surrounding areas) 194

Linacre Ln, Latham Rd, Rufford Rd, Lydiate Rd, Stanley Rd (& surrounding areas) 247

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Hereford Rd, Durham Rd, Woodland Rd, Parker Ave, Pritchard Ave, Crosby Rd South (part) (and surrounding areas) 254

Silverdale Dr, Netherton Park Rd, Hawkshhead Dr, Arnside (and surrounding areas) 130

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Forefield Ln (part), Bellair Ave, Lyndhurst Rd, Lupton Dr (& surrounding areas) 175

Maghull

Deyes Ln (part), Buttermere Cl, Haymans Green, Chilton Cl, Chilton Mews, Chilton Court (& surrounding areas) 152

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WOODLANDS HOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS

DRAW DATE 3rd May 2013

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FIRST 4 WINNERS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1 07761 Mrs P Brady £500

2 19662 Mrs I C Davies £100

3 00457 Mrs M Mc Kibbin £50

4 43631 Mrs E Garrette £50

JOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS

3rd May 2013

£1000.....Mrs Quinn, Netherton

£250.... Mrs O'Connor, Southport

£100..... Mrs Sefton, Southport

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **A.R.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 42347

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

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Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **M.B.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 42353

CMBA

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984, SECTION 14(1) AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF KENDAL DRIVE / WINDERMERE DRIVE, MAGHULL

On 9th May 2013, Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991, to close Kendal Drive and Windermere Drive, Maghull to enable sewer repair works to be carried out. The Order will continue in force for a maximum period of 21 days or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. The works are due to commence on Monday 13th May, 2013 from 08.00 hours and are expected to take up to 10 days to complete. Access will be maintained for the Emergency Services and where possible for residents.

Alternative Route

The diversion route for all traffic will be via: Windermere Drive, Moss Lane, Dodds Lane, Northway service road Kendal Drive and vice versa.

New Traffic Regulation Orders

On 9th May, 2013 Metropolitan Borough Council made the following Orders under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. The general effect of which is described in the schedule below. The Orders will come into operation on 6th June 2013. Copies of the Orders and relevant maps may be inspected at the offices of Sefton Council in either Magdalen House, Trinity Road, Bootle; or Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport; during normal office hours. Any person who desires to question the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in the Orders on the grounds that they are not within the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Acts or of any instrument made under them has not been complied with in relation to the Orders, may within the six weeks from 9th May 2013, apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Century Road, Crosby) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To introduce a disabled persons parking place centrally located outside No 2 Century Road, Crosby

Permit No.299

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Coronation Road, Crosby) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

<u>Areas of Highway Designated as Parking Places without Charge</u>	<u>Permitted Hours</u>	<u>Maximum Duration</u>
<u>Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Parking Place of Stay for which no charge is made</u>		
<u>Coronation Road - North-west Side</u>		
From a point 30 metres north-east of the north-east kerbline of York Avenue to a point metres north-east of the north-east kerbline of York Avenue	Mon-Sat 8am-6pm	30 Minutes no return within 1 Hour

New Traffic Regulation Orders

On 9th May 2013, Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council made the following Orders under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. The general effect of which is described in the schedule below. The Orders will come into operation on 6th June 2013. The Orders will reflect the restrictions which are already in place. Copies of the Orders and relevant maps may be inspected at the offices of Sefton Council in either Magdalen House, Trinity Road, Bootle; or Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport; during normal office hours. Any person who desires to question the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in the Orders on the grounds that they are not within the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Acts or of any instrument made under them has not been complied with in relation to the Orders, may within the six weeks from 9th May 2013, apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Holden Road, Waterloo) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To consolidate all existing waiting restrictions within one new Traffic Regulation Order.

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Rockland Road, Waterloo) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To consolidate all existing waiting restrictions within one new Traffic Regulation Order.

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Sycamore Road, Waterloo) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To consolidate all existing waiting restrictions within one new Traffic Regulation Order.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984, SECTION 14(1) AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MERRILOCKS ROAD, BLUNDELLSANDS

Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, not less than seven days from the publication of this Notice, intend to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991, to close Merrilocks Road, Blundellsands in the vicinity of property number 60 Merrilocks Road to enable sewer repair works to be carried out. The proposed Order will continue in force for a maximum period of 21 days or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. The works are due to commence on Monday 20th May, 2013 from 09.00 hours and are expected to take up to 10 days to complete. Access will be maintained for the Emergency Services and where possible for residents.

Alternative Route

The diversion route for all traffic will be via: The Serpentine North, Hall Road West, Dowhills Road, St Michaels Road, Eshe Road North, Mersey Road, Agnes Road, The Serpentine South, The Serpentine and vice versa.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders

Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council propose to make the following Orders under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. The general effect of which will be to make one consolidated Traffic Regulation Order for each of the streets referred to in the Schedule below. Changes to existing Orders are outlined in the Schedule below. Copies of the draft Orders, relevant maps and statements of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Orders may be inspected at the offices of Sefton Council in either Magdalen House, Trinity Road, Bootle; or Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport; during normal office hours. Objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made must be sent in writing to the Traffic Services Manager, Magdalen House, Trinity Road, Bootle L20 3NJ by no later than 30th May 2013.

SCHEDULE

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Kings Road, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To introduce a disabled persons parking place centrally located outside No 36 Kings Road, Bootle

Permit No.297

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Bowden Street, Litherland) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To introduce a disabled persons parking place centrally located outside No 15 Bowden Street, Litherland

Permit No.298

New Traffic Regulation Orders

On 9th May, 2013 Metropolitan Borough Council made the following Orders

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D Marrin, Traffic Services Manager, Magdalen House, Trinity Rd, Bootle, L20 3NJ

1118871

Sefton Council

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under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. The general effect of which is described in the schedule below. The Orders will come into operation on 6th June 2013. Copies of the Orders and relevant maps may be inspected at the offices of Sefton Council in either Magdalen House, Trinity Road, Bootle; or Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport; during normal office hours. Any person who desires to question the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in the Orders on the grounds that they are not within the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Acts or of any instrument made under them has not been complied with in relation to the Orders, may within the six weeks from 9th May 2013, apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (August Street, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

August Street - Both Sides

From a point 10 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Thornton Road to a point 10 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Blossom Street, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

Blossom Street - Both Sides

From a point 10 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Thornton Road to a point 10 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (July Street, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

July Street - Both Sides

From a point 10 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Thornton Road to a point 10 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Linacre Lane, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

Linacre Lane - North Side

From a point 16 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Thornton Road to a point 9 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

Linacre Lane - North Side

From a point 9 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Litherland Road to a point 165 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Litherland Road

Linacre Lane - North Side

From a point 5 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Thornton Road projected to a point 5 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (May Street, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

May Street - Both Sides

From a point 10 metres east of the easterly kerbline of Thornton Road to a point 10 metres west of the westerly kerbline of Litherland Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Thornton Road, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

Thornton Road - East Side

From a point 10 metres south of the southerly kerbline of July Street to a point 10 metres north of the Northerly kerbline of August Street

Thornton Road - East Side

From a point 10 metres south of the southerly kerbline of August Street to a point 10 metres north of the northerly kerbline of Blossom Street

Thornton Road – East Side

From a point 10 metres south of the southerly kerbline of Blossom Street to a point 13 metres north of the northerly kerbline of Melling Road

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton (Litherland Road, Bootle) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2013

To Revoke:

Area of Highway Designated as Residents Parking Places

Length of carriageway of a road forming one side of the area of carriageway of that road designated as a Residents Parking Place for residents who hold a valid Residents or Visitors Parking Place Permit

Litherland Road - East Side

From a point 58 metres south of the southerly kerb line of Litherland Lane to a point 9 metres north of the northerly kerb line of Melling Road projected

Litherland Road - West Side

From a point 10 metres south of the southerly kerb line of Linacre Lane to a point 10 metres north of the northerly kerb line of July Street

Litherland Road - West Side

From a point 25 metres north of the northerly kerbline of August Street to a point 5 metres north of the northerly kerbline of August Street

Litherland Road – West Side

From a point 5 metres south of the southerly kerbline of August Street to a point 5 metres north of the northerly kerbline of Blossom Street

Litherland Road – West Side

From a point 5 metres south of the southerly kerbline of Blossom Street to a point 9 metres north of the northerly kerbline of Melling Road

Litherland Road – West Side

From a point 5 metres south of the southerly kerbline of Melling Road to a point 22 metres south of the southerly kerbline of Melling Road


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WarrenCare are currently recruiting community based **Support Workers** to work with children and adults with learning/physical disabilities and mental health problems, within the Sefton area.

Full time and part time positions available. **Must be a driver with access to a vehicle**

For more information on this rewarding role please contact HR on: **0151 932 2000**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BALMER Ian

The family would like to thank all friends for their kind support during Ian's illness and for their subsequent messages of condolence and attendance at the funeral. Also for the many generous donations to Leukemia Research. Special thanks to Ian's colleagues at Iceland for their many years of support and friendship. Our gratitude goes to the staff at Liverpool Royal University Hospital for their long kindness and support for Ian. Grateful thanks to Bill Dawson and Uncle Fred for their words of comfort at the funeral service. Warm thanks to Hardmans Funeral Services for their dignified arrangements and personal caring touch.

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IN MEMORIAM

DORAN Sheila

9th May 2010

3 Long years since you went away but in our thoughts and hearts you stay. Miss your smile, miss your laugh, miss your voice, miss your hugs and kisses, miss your love, but most of all She, I miss you.
Your Bill.

Miss you Mum

Miss you Nan,
Stephen, Jane, Jema
and Ella
XXX

DEATHS

O'SHEA Mary Teresa (Tess/Terry)

Peacefully on the 30th of April in Fazakerley Hospital.

Cremation at Thornton Crematorium on Friday the 10th of May at 3.20pm.
All enquiries to Peter Coyne Funeral Services.
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A loving son and wonderful uncle, so sadly missed, we think of you everyday with fond memories.

Love you loads Alan
All our love
Mum, Dad and Liam
xxx

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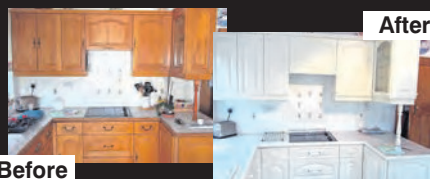
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MOTORS

Car club in plea for help with MotorFest

Report by **David Simister**

THE organisers of a motorsport-themed extravaganza in Ormskirk are asking the region's car clubs to help make this year's event a success.

Aintree Circuit Club, which for the past three years has teamed up with West Lancashire Borough Council to host the Ormskirk MotorFest in the historic market town, is calling for members of car and bike clubs to bring their vehicles along and display them to visitors on Sunday, August 25.

The MotorFest's organisers have also given the event's website a revamp, to help give participants and visitors to the event more information about what they can expect from both the displays and the parades around the town's one-way system.

Aintree Circuit Club is also calling for residents to volunteer as marshals to lend a helping hand to the event's safety and logistics, and urged anyone interested in offering their support to get in touch.

To find out more about this year's Ormskirk MotorFest and to find out about how you can take part go online to www.ormskirkmotorfest.com

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www.lifeoncars.blogspot.com

THE saloon is dead. Long live the sort of hatchback-meets-people-carrier-meets-off-roader!

Unless you've been living in a cave for the last year or two you won't have failed to notice that your nearest car park isn't crammed with Mondeos and Vectras anymore; increasingly, it's Jukes and Countrymans you'll encounter.

Ordinary hatchbacks masquerading as off-rovers – or crossovers, as the estate agents of the motoring world would rather you and I call them – have been around for ages, as anyone familiar with the Talbot Matra Rancho (well worth a cheeky Google, by the way) will testify. The recent renaissance really took off when Nissan dropped saloons entirely and replaced the Primera with the Qashqai, following it up

with the weirder but usefully smaller Juke. Since then Skoda, Renault, Chevrolet, and MINI are among the car makers vying for a chomp at the crossover cake, with Vauxhall and Peugeot set to join the party later this year. The only problem with crossovers is they essentially fall into two categories.

There's the deliberately trendy, lifestyle-orientated offerings like the MINI Countryman and the Nissan Juke, which like Justin Bieber downloads sell in their shedloads but somehow make your mind ache slightly at their very existence.

I worry, just a little bit, that MG's gone for the wrong approach of the two – if their proposed offering, the CS is anything to go by. The new car suggests to me that MG's Chinese owners have chickened out and gone for the most derivative approach possible. Even the name's boring; MG CS sounds like somewhere you'd buy a three piece suite in a Bank Holiday sale.

To summarise, crossovers are generally duller than a wet weekend in Northampton.

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Bucks miss out on title

IT was to be a frustrating end to the season for Bootle who finished in third place in the North West Counties Premier League after drawing their final league match at St Helens Town 0-0, two points behind

champions Padiham. The Bucks had beaten Winsford United 3-1 last Wednesday but Padiham also won which put them well ahead on goal difference, and also won their final match.

Bootle recover from losing three wickets in first over to win cup tie

LAST weekend was a busy but eventful one for Firwood Bootle as they racked up two wins and a draw from matches on three consecutive days.

In the first Liverpool Competition Premier League fixture of the new season on Saturday, Bootle were under the cosh from the moment that visitors Leigh opted to bat first and found the home bowling very much to their liking. Half centuries from Mattie McKiernan (65), Chris Riley (61) and Alex Roussak (51) enabled their side to declare at 250-6 after 55 overs, leaving Bootle with 47 back.

The home batsmen did not perform to anything like their true ability and eight wickets were lost before the hundred was raised. The win was now way beyond Bootle's reach but Will Purser (58 not out) dug in resolutely, he and last man James Dixon resisting 43 balls together to finish on 129-9 and secure a draw.

Freckleton visited Wadham Road for a Lancashire Cup tie the following day and made an incredible start when Josh Holden took a hat-trick in the first over of the match. At 10-5 in the fifth over, Bootle were facing complete humiliation but skipper Graeme Jones (47), Matthew Thompson (32) and James Dixon (24 not out) dragged their team towards respectability, and with a 10th wicket stand of 43 pushed the total to 135 all out in 44.5 overs, Holden finishing with 5-21.

The visitors in turn found batting far from easy, and with half the side back in the pavilion and only 43 on the board the situation was looking serious. At 54-7 in the 21st over Bootle were firmly in the driving seat, but the Freckleton tail was determined to wag, especially Ian Snape with a courageous 31 made from 67 balls. Bootle's seam bowlers, Purser (3-19) and Dixon (3-11),

with assistance from Chris Cunningham (2-23), eventually made the game safe as the visitors expired for 115 after 43 overs, a defeat by 20 runs.

Bank Holiday Monday brought a trip to North Wales to meet Prestatyn in the last group game in the Ray Digman Trophy. A much weakened Bootle bowled splendidly to limit the hosts to 154-7 and were soon in cruise control in the 2nd innings following the early loss of Michael Kirwin for eight. Craig Prince (53 not out) and Adam Burton (80 not out) put on an unbroken 133 for the 2nd wicket, the latter hitting 13 fours and a six as Bootle won by nine wickets in the 28th over.

This weekend Bootle meets Fleetwood Hesketh on Saturday at Sea Cop in the Premier League and on Sunday they are at home to Oxtan in the National Club Championship – both games start at 1pm.

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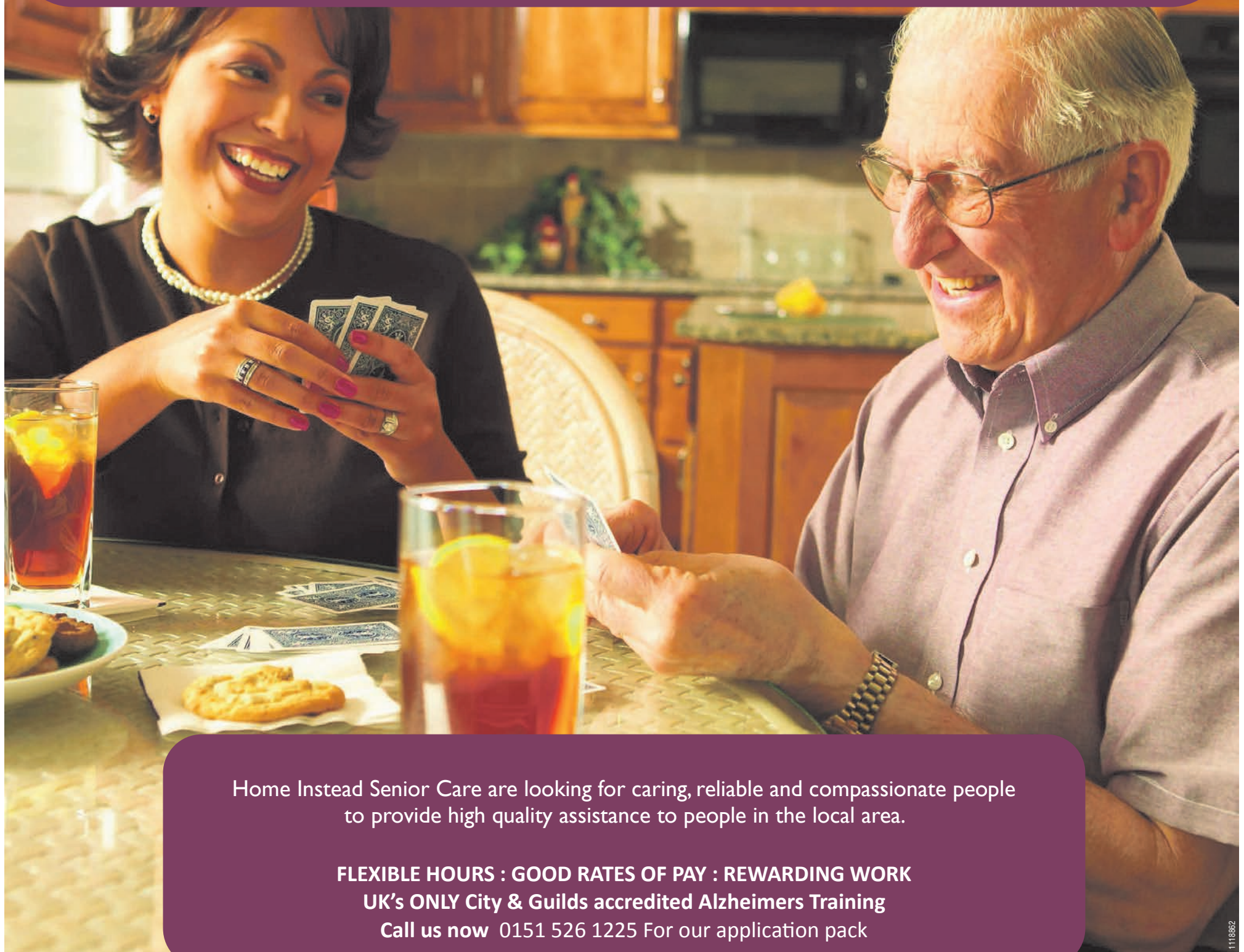
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Sidelines

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MEAT Spicy Beef, Pepperoni, Peri Peri Beef, Lamb, Salami, Minced Meat

POULTRY Succulent Turkey, Tandoori Chicken, Chinese Chicken

SEAFOOD Tuna, Prawns, Anchovies

ARE YOU A GYMOPHOBIC?

What is it that makes someone Gymophobic?

We asked 200 women what it is that they dislike about using a conventional gym.

73% said that they found gyms intimidating. 69% said that they did not want to exercise alongside men and a further 39% said that they found most gyms to be full of young, slim, shapely girls who made them feel old and fat! 88% complained at lack of attention and advice- from Gym Instructors and 55% said that gyms were too time consuming. 61% said that gyms were expensive. 77% of women said that they did not feel fit enough to go to a gym and 49% said that they were too old!

About Gymophobics

In 2003 the first Gymophobics was launched and since then thousands of women all over the country have been using the 30 minute programme 3 times a week to slim down figures and tone up loose skin. Gymophobics is very different to conventional gyms, Gymophobics is not intimidating. There are no men on the all-ladies circuits and Gymophobics attracts thousands of women of all ages and all shapes and sizes. Members receive individual VIP attention from friendly, mature Instructors and the 30 minute workout means that almost everybody can find the time to attend.

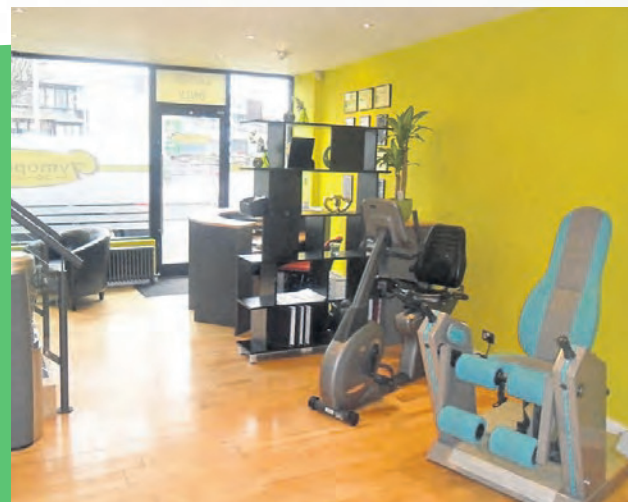
Unlike conventional gyms the Gymophobic programme is not demanding and requires no prior level of fitness. Even someone who has never exercised will find Gymophobics easy and fun. Results are excellent! Most women lose a dress size in the first few weeks and go on to achieve a lovely figure. Gymophobics is fun and friendly which means that drop out rates are much lower than conventional gyms. People actually talk to each other at Gymophobics and there is a great social atmosphere which is enhanced by the varied social calendar, coffee mornings, charity occasions, etc. More than 70% of members renew their membership each year - more than twice the national average. With memberships from as little as £1 per day for unlimited use, this is certainly a membership to suit everyone's pocket.

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- Coffin trimming demonstrations
- Horse and carriage hearse
- Q&A with the embalmer



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